



CALPEEK

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PROP. 13: STILL A GREAT POLITICAL ISSUE.

Whether you call it the Jarvis-Gann Property Tax Reform Act of 1978 or just plain old Prop. 13, the fact remains this 14-year-old initiative which put a halt to skyrocketing property taxes in the 1970s still packs a powerful political punch. If reports out of Washington D.C. are accurate, then it also appears that Prop. 13 will be upheld as constitutional by the Supreme Court, which agreed to hear the case of homeowner Stephanie Nordlinger. Nordlinger claimed the law was unconstitutional because it forced new homeowners to pay higher property taxes than longtime homeowners...

...While a decision is not expected until summer, odds are excellent that Prop. 13 will be used as a political issue in the upcoming June 2nd primary. It's really more of an issue for individual Republican candidates, especially those who are part of the ANTI-TAX movement. This is not to say there aren't Demos who supported the original measure. The best known Demo supporter was Ira Reiner, who in 1978 was L.A. City Controller...

...Today, Demos and Republicans alike know that to be opposed to Prop. 13 is SUICIDAL. As far as CALPEEK can determine, there is only ONE major candidate who still opposes Prop. 13 - Palm Springs Mayor Sonny Bono, a GOP candidate for the U.S. Senate. Because of his stand, insiders think Bono's chances of winning are now zero...

...Appointed U.S. Sen. John Seymour(R), when he was mayor of Anaheim, had some serious doubts about Prop. 13, but is now considered a strong supporter. The same with former GOP Assemblyman Charles Bader (now running for congress), who opposed Prop. 13 when he was mayor of Pomona. Will Prop. 13 come back to haunt them in 1992? Maybe...

...FYI: 12 CA legislators went to D.C. to watch the court in action. Of this group, Assemblymembers Carol Bentley(running for State Senate), Tom McClintock and Phil Wyman(both running for congress) have tough primaries this June. Will Prop. 13 be an issue for them? Bet your home or condo...

CAMPAIGN '92: WILL WOMEN MAKE THEIR MARK??

Editor's note: Compared to 1990, there are 80% more WOMEN candidates (GOP and Demos) running for office this year. Here is a CALPEEK update on a few of these races...

- 30th C.D. - "I'm going to run for the seat. I think I'm the best candidate." And with that, 38-year-old L.A. School Bd. member Leticia Quezada jumped into the Demo primary to succeed retiring U.S. Rep. Ed Roybal. Quezada declared her candidacy before word leaked out that Roybal's hand-picked successor, COS Henry Lozano, would NOT run. Since Feb. 24 Roybal strategists have been trying to find someone to face Quezada. The leading contenders are Assemblyman Xavier Becerra, L.A. Councilman Mike Hernandez and Alma Martinez, a top aide to L.A. Co. Sup. Gloria Molina. CALPEEK sources also note that Assemblyman Richard Polanco is still looking. FYI: Helen Hernandez is also running for this seat and she's supported by a group of L.A. feminists...

- 68th A.D. - There are two strong women candidates running the GOP primary against former Assemblyman Curt Pringle of Garden Grove. They are Buena Park Councilwoman Rhonda McCune and Westminster Councilwoman Joy Neugebauer. McCune is PRO-choice. The Demos had some problems finding someone to run, but finally got former Cypress Mayor John Kanel to file. The 68th A.D. is solid GOP turf (47.56% registration vs. 42.89%),

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but some Demo strategists feel they can beat Pringle. Should one of the GOP women take Pringle out in the primary, the seat stays Republican...

- 70th A.D. - This is the NEW home turf of incumbent hardliner Gil Ferguson. It may be wishful thinking, BUT this time GOP moderates say they have a strong woman candidate who can beat Ferguson. That candidate is Costa Mesa Mayor Mary Hornbuckle. She's supposed to have a solid base in her home town and can raise money...

- 24th C.D. - Update. Latest word now is that Rosalie Zalis, a sr. policy advisor to Gov. Pete Wilson, will NOT run...

- 36th C.D. - Here's the rundown on the army of consultants who are working for GOP candidate Maureen Reagan: sr. consultant Stu Spencer; general consultant Huckaby-Rodriguez-Gilliard; associate consultants The John Grotta Co. and Carey & Associates; media relations - Revell Communications; fundraising - The Anne Hyde Co. and Coplen & Kraft; polling - The Wirthlin Group; legal counsel - Bell & Hiltachk and Simmons & McAndrews; and campaign treasurer - Daralyn Reed Co....

- 53rd A.D. - Yes, GOP consultant George Young does have campaign buttons (which he will pass out at the CRP convention). Now normally, as a consultant, George tells his clients to save their money and not buy buttons. So why is he buying them? Young tells CALPEEK he is listening to his campaign consultants. And who are his consultants? Past associates and close friends such as Lynn Wessell, Rene Ramsey, Laura Olhasso, Dana Reed, Gary Amo, Gary Lawrence and Don Dornan. Some are paid, others are volunteering their efforts...

- 42nd C.D. - An interesting GOP primary battle could be in the works for this C.D., with the winner facing U.S. Rep. George Brown(D). Until recently, the only serious GOP contender was San Bernardino Co. Sup. Bob Hammock, who ran and lost to Brown in 1990. But now add the name Dick Rutan to the Republican primary. If Rutan's name sounds familiar it's because in 1986 he and his partner, Jeana Yeager, flew around the world without refueling. There are 2 other GOPers who may file: Chuck Williams and Robert Westerman, both of Rancho Cucamonga. More about Rutan in another issue...

- Quote of the week from the Feb. 24 edition of the San Diego Union-Tribune, from Wilson political strategist George Gorton: "The ideological gap between moderate and conservative factions of the Republican Party is overblown." Oh really. In CA Assembly races, CALPEEK counted 13-15 contests where Wilson moderates and hardliners are toe-to-toe in combat. Stay tuned...

CA INITIATIVE UPDATE: MORE MEASURES SEEK TO QUALIFY FOR THE NOVEMBER 1992 BALLOT...

Editor's note: Here is an update on 1992 initiative proposals which have been given the OK to collect signatures. In order to make the November ballot, petitions need to be turned in by April 17 to allow enough time to verify signatures...

- "REASONABLE ATTORNEY'S FEES" is the official title of a proposed statute sponsored by Norman J. Bedford of Healdsburg (707)433-7841. The whole measure is summed up in one sentence, "Prevailing party in all civil law cases shall, as part of judgment, be awarded reasonable attorneys fees." Deadline for submitting 384,974 signatures is July 13...

- "AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT INSURANCE" is the official title of a statute proposed by State Sen. Frank Hill(R-Whittier) and Assemblyman Ross Johnson(R-Fullerton). This is another attempt to mandate NO-FAULT auto insurance, but with a twist: this measure mandates no-fault for non-serious accidents. Good driver premiums would be about \$220. Injury compensation limits would be \$15,000 per person, \$30,000 per accident and \$5,000 property damage. Serious accidents would be handled through the current system. Deadline for gathering 384,974 signatures is July 17. Hill can be contacted at (916)445-2848...

- Assemblyman Tom Bane(D-Tarzana) has introduced ACA 43 to permit Las Vegas style casino gambling in Calif., within a 10-mile zone along the CA/Nevada border. No hearing date as yet, but when it comes to a final floor vote, Bane will need a 2/3rds vote for passage. He wants to get ACA 43 on the November ballot. FYI: as CALPEEK has reported in previous issues, there is currently underway a petition drive to permit casino gambling in Adelanto in San Bernardino Co. That initiative is also aiming for the November ballot...

1992 U.S. SENATE UPDATE: ALLEN WON'T QUIT.
Editor's note: Here is an update on the 2 U.S. Senate races in Calif...

- ALLEN STANDS FIRM - In the battle to oust appointed U.S. Sen. John Seymour(R) in the GOP primary, it now appears certain that U.S. Civil Rights Comm. Bill Allen is in the contest for the long haul - much to the disappointment of fellow conservative, U.S. Rep. Bill Dannemeyer, who on Feb. 25 filed his papers to run...

...With both in the primary, odds are high they will SPLIT the conservative vote, thus allowing Seymour to slip through. Dannemeyer and his backers are very much aware of this and have been trying to get Allen out of the primary, but without success. The harder they push, the more determined Allen is to stay. And to say there is GROWING TENSION between these two is the understatement of 1992. True, Allen isn't getting much financial support, but this does NOT seem to be killing him in the polls. There's little doubt that if Allen were out of the primary, most if not all his support would shift to Dannemeyer - and the contest between Dannemeyer and Seymour would be MUCH closer than it is now...

- DIFI TO ANNOUNCE - Former S.F. Mayor Dianne Feinstein(D) will officially launch her campaign for the senate on Mar. 4 (Wednesday), with stops in S.F., L.A. and San Diego (tentative plans)...

- ALIOTO JR. MAY RUN - Although he has not filed papers, Joseph M. Alioto, son of the former S.F. mayor and brother of County Sup. Angela, is testing the waters for a Demo bid for the 2-yr. seat now held by Sen. Seymour. He's an attorney (but not with Alioto & Alioto) and he is said to be very conservative and ANTI-choice. He has made a number of phone calls around the State, telling those who would listen that DiFi and Demo Controller Gray Davis can't beat Seymour in November. What impact will Alioto Jr. have? If he files, few give him a shot at winning, but he may be a spoiler if the primary gets tight. Right now DiFi has a hefty lead over Davis. Stay tuned...

NEW CALIF. REGISTRATION FIGURES RELEASED.
The first POST-reapportionment report on registration is out and it shows a total of 12,959,306 registered voters Statewide,

DOWN 103,358 from Dec. 31, 1991. The drop was due to a recent purge of voter rolls. Here are the numbers:

Democrats	6,279,559
Republicans	5,070,714
Decline to State	1,197,156
AIP	156,321
Green Party	103,903
Peace & Freedom	55,907
Libertarian Party	53,228
Miscellaneous	42,518

LOCAL ELECTIONS '92: CITY-COUNTY ROUNDUP.
Editor's note: Here's another roundup of CITY-COUNTY elections taking place April 14 and June 2...

- SAN DIEGO MAYOR'S RACE - The campaign team handling Sup. Susan Golding's bid to become San Diego's new mayor is seeing RED these days after a Nov. 26, 1991 confidential campaign memo recently found its way to the pages of the Union-Tribune newspaper. The memo from pollster Dick Dresner to Golding outlined some strategy positions she should consider, including how to respond to questions about Golding's soon to be ex-husband, Richard Silberman, now in prison on money laundering charges. The leaked memo made for 2-days worth of interesting reading, but wasn't nearly as juicy as the leaked memo from consultant Michael Berman to L.A. Councilman Zev Yaroslavsky back in 1988. Bottomline: some red faces but no long term damage to Golding...

- RIVERSIDE COUNTY - Long time incumbent Sup. Walt P. Abraham is retiring and there is a major battle underway to replace him. Leading contenders are Riverside Councilman Bob Buster and banker Joan Sparkman...

- L.A. CO. DA'S RACE - Add Dep. DA Sterling Norris to the list of candidates challenging incumbent DA Ira Reiner this June 2. Other rivals are Deputy DA Gil Garcetti and Beverly Hills Councilman Robert Tanenbaum...

...Tanenbaum has hired veteran consultant Harvey Englander of Campaign Management Inc. to handle strategy and mail. Another veteran of various DA wars, Sid Galanty, is Tanenbaum's media consultant. IF Tanenbaum will listen to these two guys, he might have a good shot. Note: CALPEEK used the word "IF"...

CA MANUFACTURERS HOLD MAR. 16-18 MEETING.

The CA Manufacturers Assn.(CMA) will hold its annual meeting Mar. 16-18 at the Hyatt Hotel, Sacramento. Convention theme is "Reinventing the Dream: The New Future for CA Manufacturers." For info and RSVPs (800)655-2640...

which basically restricts the number of new subdivisions (read that as a single lot) to no more than 25 per year in the unincorporated parts of the county until 2005...

GROWTH MEASURES: WILL THE MOVEMENT TO CONTROL DEVELOPMENT FLY DURING A RECESSION???

There will be at least 2 local ballot measures this SPRING dealing with the touchy issue of SLOW GROWTH. One measure will appear on the ballot in Amador County in No. Calif., while the second one will be in the new city of Santa Clarita in northern L.A. County. But the key question with both of these measures is whether voters, faced with a bad recession, will approve such plans, given the poor shape of CA's housing and construction industry. Many sources think the answer is NO...

...The so-called "slow growth" movement probably peaked out in 1989, after a 3-year run when as many as 250 different measures may have appeared around the State -- most going down to defeat. And those few measures which won, have been taken to court and some of them have been declared unconstitutional...

...Of the two measures which will appear this spring, the one to watch is in L.A. County, in the city of Santa Clarita, population 147,000 and growing. Voters will face Measure A on April 14. This measure would limit residential growth by an allotment system - no more than 475 new units per year. Under Measure A, the council can hike the allotment by as much as 10% in any given year, provided that they reduce the allotment by that same percentage the following year. But here's the cruncher: if there are MANDATORY water restrictions (where fines, penalties, surcharges or any other method to enforce reductions in water usage), NO residential allotments may be issued. Given the drouth situation, this means NO NEW HOUSING UNITS. Anti-A forces have hired The Wessell Co. to run the NO on A campaign...

...In Amador County, population 30,000, a measure was placed on the June 2 ballot by county supes after proponents gathered the necessary signatures. It's a wordy plan

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